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5 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Herbert Scoville, Jr.

SUBJECT: Comments on Proposed Internal CIA Project Approval System

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1. In the interest of clarity and uniformity of definition, the Comptroller's Office was asked what "new projects" means. The following statement was provided by [REDACTED] after conferring with [REDACTED]: "Projects that had not previously existed - newly initiated - not in the nature of a renewal - something new". 25X1A9a

2. It seems to me that still further clarifications will be needed before we can be quite sure whether this proposed procedure is acceptable to us. Another factor to be considered here is the manner in which a program or programs may be developed and approved on an annual basis, and whether under such approvals this procedure for each \$50,000 or more must necessarily be followed.

3. \$50,000, generally speaking, is a very small sum when one is talking in terms of research and development projects which may mean having to go through this procedure with virtually every project we want to initiate. On the other hand, when such projects are few in number but large in size (money) then perhaps this would not be much of a problem. In view of the many as yet unresolved aspects of the DD/R's total mission and functions, and responsibility, it is very difficult to assess some of these factors. In general, however, it strikes me that this well may be a picayune, cumbersome, time consuming procedure for DD/R matters. Further, it does not seem that it should necessarily follow that the same procedure should apply to operational projects a la DD/P, or paper research studies a la DD/I, etc., and such major R&D programs as will characterize a significant, if not major, portion of DD/R's financial outlays. Also, while the need for maximum security will certainly be an important factor in DD/R projects, we could point out

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*This memo not given  
to Dr. Scoville.  
[Signature]*

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that our resistance to this proposal is not to avoid scrutiny, but rather cumbersome inefficiency and unnecessary security disclosures.

**Recommendation**

4. Based on the few observations and uncertainties stated above, I would recommend that we request that this system not be automatic nor autocratically imposed upon the DD/R until we have been afforded more opportunity, following further decisions regarding the composition of the DD/R, to study, evaluate and develop our programs for the immediate and more projected future and such internal DD/R management control and procedures as may be warranted.

5. We are already working on such internal management and control procedures.

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[REDACTED]

ODD/R

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